

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL _____

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE November 5, 2007

SUBJECT: New 2007 Transition to Teaching Grant

SUBMITTED BY: Jan Amator, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Highly Qualified Professionals

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ABSTRACT:

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) has been awarded a five-year grant for \$3,562,686 from the U.S. Department of Education to expand its current Transition to Teaching grant program. ADE will form three new partnerships: the first with the Apache County Superintendent's Office, the second with the Navajo County Superintendent's Office, and the third with the Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC). The county superintendent offices are located in two rural counties covering the northeastern part of the state and including Navajo, Hopi and Apache Indian reservations and the Zuni Pueblo. This grant will introduce the countywide rural consortium as a model for the high-need LEAs in both counties. The ADC programs in the target counties will be included in these consortia. The purpose of the consortium will be to represent and assist small and rural LEAs and communities with building local capacity to improve and expand the recruitment of highly qualified teachers. Another major activity designed to meet the challenges faced by hard-to-staff schools by providing recruiting and training support to participating districts. Those districts located in other counties will join the currently operating consortia created under the previous TTT grant (Southern Arizona Consortium and Greater Phoenix Area Consortium).

The overarching goal of the Arizona Department of Education's Transition to Teaching (TTT) grant is to increase the number of highly qualified teachers in high-needs schools across the state of Arizona including prison education programs provided to minors adjudicated as adults and sentenced to prison. Twenty-three high-need public school districts and 11 prison education programs have been selected for participation. All core academic areas will be addressed; however, there will be a focus on recruiting teachers or math, science, and special education in order to meet identified needs in Arizona. . The participant goal for the five-year grant is 275 participants including paraprofessionals, mid-career changers, and recent graduates: Year 1, 15; Year 2, 70; Year 3, 90; Year 4, 100. The goals of the project are: 1) Recruit highly qualified paraprofessionals, mid-career professionals, and new graduates to the TTT program; 2) Use the Teaching Intern Certificate to meet the needs of participants and districts in this alternative path to certification; 3) Retain participants in the TTT program and in the teaching profession beyond completion of the TTT program; 4) Implement alternative path programs that create "highly qualified" and effective teachers in grades 9-12 and in special education (K-12); and 5) Build local capacity of districts to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. LEAs will be helped in the establishment of "grow your own" programs focused on highly qualified paraprofessionals.

School Districts to be served include:

Alpine ElemD(K-8)
Chinle UD (K-12)
Ganado USD (K-12)
McNary ED (K-8)
Red Mesa UD (K-12)
Sanders UD (K-12)
St. Johns UD (K-12)
Window Rock USD (K-12)
Cedar UD(K-12)
Heber/Overgaard UD (P-12)
Holbrook UD (P-12)
Joseph City UD (K-12)
Kayenta USD (K-12)
Pinon UD (K-12)
Show Low UD (K-12)
Snowflake UD (K-12)
Whiteriver UD (K-12)
Winslow UD (K-12)
Bowie UD (K-12)
Santa Cruz Valley HSD (9-12)
Nogales USD (K-12)

Arizona State Prison Complex Sites

Winslow
Douglas
Globe
Safford
Perryville
Lewis
Phoenix
Tucson
Florence
Eyman
Yuma

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [X] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW**

That the Board accept the 2007 Transition to Teaching Grant of \$3,562,686.

ATTACHMENTS (X)YES () NO

